

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Claims 22 and 27 are amended herein. As such, applicant respectfully submits that this objection is moot.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 22, 26, 30, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ouderkirk, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,828,488). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Notwithstanding, claim 22 is amended to call for a lighting device with a number of dimples or projections on a surface thereof opposite to the light reflective device. The surface also serves as a light diffusing plate. Applicant respectfully submits that Ouderkirk fails to teach or suggest such a lighting device.

Claim 26 depends from claim 22 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons as set forth above.

Claim 30 calls for a light diffuser at a surface of the lighting apparatus. Ouderkirk fails to teach or suggest this arrangement. Rather, Ouderkirk teaches a diffused reflective surface 175 and 176 below the optical cavity 140 (see figure 10) and figure 11 shows a diffused reflective surface 137 above the optical cavity 140. As such, Ouderkirk fails to anticipate the invention as claimed.

Claim 32 calls for a light diffuser at a surface of the lighting apparatus. As set forth above with respect to independent claim 30, Ouderkirk fails to teach or suggest this arrangement. As such, Ouderkirk fails to anticipate claim 32.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 23-25 and 28-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ouderkirk, et al. in lieu of Broer, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,359,670). These claims depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 22. Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to their base claim.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: G. Gregory Schivley
G. Gregory Schivley
Reg. No. 27,382
Bryant E. Wade
Reg. No. 40,344

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

ATTACHMENT FOR CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a marked up version of each amended claim in which underlines indicates insertions and brackets indicate deletions.

22. (Amended) A display device comprising:

a polarization axis varying device,

a first polarizing splitter device disposed on one side of said polarization axis varying device and which transmits a light ray component linearly polarized in a first direction while reflecting or absorbing a light ray component linearly polarized in a predetermined direction different from said first direction;

a second polarizing splitter device, disposed on the other side of said polarization axis varying device and which reflects a light ray component linearly polarized in a second direction while transmitting a light ray component linearly polarized in a predetermined direction different from said second direction; and

a lighting device disposed on the side of said second polarizing splitter device opposite to said polarization axis varying device, and

a light reflective device, disposed on the side of said lighting device opposite to said second polarizing splitter device;

wherein said lighting device has a number of at least one of dimples and projections on a surface thereof on the side of the lighting device opposite to the light reflective device, and said surface also serving as a light diffusing plate [device at a surface thereof, said light diffusing device] diffusing and reflecting a light ray coming in

from said second polarizing splitter device, while outputting [transmitting] a light ray [coming from said lighting device] toward said second polarizing splitter device.

23. (Amended) A display device according to Claim 22, [further comprising a light reflective device, disposed on the side of said lighting device opposite to said light diffusing device, for reflecting a light ray coming in from said lighting device,]

wherein said lighting device transmits a light ray coming in from the side of said surface provided with a number of dimples or projections [said light diffusing device] toward said light reflective device, while transmitting a light ray coming in from said light reflective device toward the side of said surface provided with a number of dimples or projections [said light diffusing device].

26. (Amended) A display device according to Claim 22, further comprising a light exit angle control device, disposed between said second polarizing splitter device and said lighting device also serving as a light diffusing plate [device], for outputting a light ray at an exit angle within a predetermined range when receiving a light ray.

27. (Amended) A display device according to Claim 22, further comprising a light diffusing [exit angle control] device, disposed between said second polarizing splitter [lighting] device and said lighting device also serving as a light diffusing plate [device], for diffusing and reflecting a light ray coming in from said second polarizing splitter device, while transmitting a light ray coming from said lighting device toward said second polarizing splitter device [outputting a light ray at an exit angle within a predetermined

range when receiving a light ray].

28. (Amended) A display device according to Claim [22] 27, further comprising a third polarizing splitter device disposed between said lighting device and said light diffusing device and which reflects a light ray component linearly polarized in a third direction, while transmitting a light ray component linearly polarized in a predetermined direction different from said third direction.

31. (Amended) A display device according to Claim 30, further comprising a reflector on the side of said lighting apparatus [light diffuser] opposite to said surface including said light diffuser [lighting apparatus], wherein said lighting apparatus comprises a light source and a substantially transparent light guide.